

Donal Hurley

(b. 1950)

“Composition is the search for creativity through the experience of innocence.”



Photo: Eugene Langan

Donal Hurley was born in Dublin and studied music at University College Dublin. He has a particular interest in electro-acoustic music and music for dance, and since 1985 has worked closely with the Irish Youth Dance Company and the annual New Music-New Dance Festival. His compositions have been performed and broadcast in

three continents, most recently in China.

As an active member of the Association of Irish Composers his ambition is to bridge the gap between electronic and acoustic music and to help establish a real identity for contemporary Irish music in this island and abroad. He is a lecturer in music at the Mater Dei Institute of Education, Dublin.

Selected Works

ORCHESTRAL

A Garland for May (1994)

2222 4331 timp 2 perc hrp pf str

MS 6'

Commissioned by Cultural Division, SIPTU with funds provided by the Arts Council / An Chomhairle Ealaíon. Premiere: 1 May 1994. ICTU May Day Gala Centenary Concert, National Concert Hall, Dublin. RTE Concert Orchestra, conductor Proinnsias Ó Duinn. Recording: CMC Sound Archive.

ENSEMBLE

Partial Images (1996)

fl ob cl hn vib vn vc db

MS 6'

Sonatina for Recorder and Piano (1996)

MS 13'

Premiere: 7 June 1996. Mater Dei Institute of Education, Dublin. Sonia Conlon (rec), Donal Hurley (pf).

Octorôle (1994)

fl ob cl hn perc vn vc db

MS 8'

Esprit (1993 rev. 1995)

fl ob cl hn perc vn vc db

MS 9'

Premiere: 1 May 1994. Hugh Lane Municipal Gallery of Modern Art, Dublin. Nua Nós, conductor Dáirine Ní Mheadhra.

Sonata da Chiesa (1989)

fl ob timp hrp synth org vc

MS 12'

Commissioned by the Mater Dei Institute of Education, Dublin. Premiere: Sunday, 21 March 1989. Holy Cross College, Clonliffe Road, Dublin. Mater Dei Chamber Ensemble, conductor Donal Hurley.

Trio (1985)

cl vn pf

MS 7'

Commissioned by the Ennis/IMRO Composition Summer School. Premiere: Coláiste Mhuire, Ennis, Co. Clare. Alan Smale (vn), John Finucane (cl), Roy Holmes (pf).

SOLO INSTRUMENTAL

Escapades (1992)

pf

MS 6'

VOCAL AND CHORAL

Stabat Mater (1999)

sa

MS 3'

Premiere: 22 March 1999. Feis Ceoil, Royal Dublin Society [RDS], Dublin. Blakestown Choristers, conductor Sr Barbara McHugh.

Mrs Snipkin and Mrs Wobblechin (1998)

sa

Text: Laura Richards

MS 3'

Premiere: 24 March 1998. Feis Ceoil, Dublin.

Blakestown Choristers, conductor Sister Barbara McHugh.

Mass in Honour of St Laurence O'Toole (1996)

satb, cntr, cong, org, 2 fl, hn

MS 8'

Premiere: 9 March 1997. Holy Cross College, Clonliffe, Dublin. Deirdre Ryan (fl), Sheila Donnelly (fl), Loreto McAuley (hn), Andrew Mackriell (org), Paul Kenny (cantor), Mater Dei Chorale, conductor Dr Anne Murphy.

Recording: *Teach me, O God - Liturgical Music*. Mater Dei Chorale, Deirdre Ryan (fl), Sheila Donnelly (fl), Loreto McAuley (hn), Andrew Mackriell (org), Paul Kenny (cantor), conductor Anne Murphy. Mater Dei 1997. MDICD 9703.**Sing a New Song to the Lord (1988)**

ssa [div.]

Text: From Psalm 98.

MS 4'

Commissioned by Canticum Novum.

I Died for Beauty (1986)

S-solo, fl tpt pf

Text: Emily Dickinson

MS 8'

Premiere: July 1987. Ennis Summer School. Virginia Kerr (S-solo), Roy Holmes (pf), Michael Alcorn.

Let the Peoples Praise You O Lord (1985 rev. 1987)

satb org

Text: Psalm 99.

MS 5'

Commissioned by Mullingar Cathedral, Mater Dei Institute of Education, Dublin, Dublin.

Premiere: November 1987. Holy Cross Church/College, Clonliffe Rd., Drumcondra, Co. Dublin. Mater Dei Choir, Gerard Gillen (org), conductor Sr Barbara McHugh.

Mass for Mater Dei (1984)

satb org

MS 9'

Commissioned by Mater Dei Institute of Education, Dublin.

Premiere: St. Patrick's Training College, Drumcondra, Co. Dublin. Mater Dei Choir, John O'Keefe (org), conductor Sr Barbara McHugh.

An Magnificat (1982)

ssa, 0000 0210 timp pf org synth str

MS 13'

Commissioned by Mater Dei Institute of Education in honour of Rev. Pat Wallace.

Premiere: 18 December 1982. Mater Dei Institute of Education, Dublin. Mater Dei Ensemble and Choir, conductor Sr. Barbara McHugh.

Five Hymns (1981 - 1988)

ssatt, vn, srec, synth, org, hrp, gui

Text: Trans. Murray

MS 12'

Commissioned by The Marian Year Committee and Mater Dei Institute of Education.

Premiere: 17 November 1981. Graduates' Mass, Clonliffe Church, Dublin. Mater Dei Choir, conductor Sr Anne Murphy.

Recording: *Teach me, O God - Liturgical Music*. Mater Dei Chorale, conductor Sr Anne Murphy. Mater Dei 1997. MDICD 9703.

ELECTRO-ACOUSTIC AND MIXED MEDIA

Ice to Water, Water to Words (1993)

tape 29'

Commissioned by The Sculptors' Society of Ireland with funds provided by the Arts Council / An Chomhairle Ealaion.

Premiere: 2 September 1993. See-through Art Exhibition, Hugh Lane Municipal Gallery of Modern Art, Dublin.

Recording: CMC Sound Archive.

Lifescapes (1992)

tape 9'

Premiere: 24 September 1992. Project Arts Centre, Dublin. City Dance Company.

Recording: CMC Sound Archive.

The Wall (1991)

tape 8'

Commissioned by City Dance Company.

Premiere: 28 January 1991. Project Arts Centre, Dublin. City Dance Company.

Recording: CMC Sound Archive.

Fine Line (1991)

tape 10'

Premiere: 2 September 1991. New Music-New Dance Festival, Project Arts Centre, Dublin. City Dance Co.

Recording: CMC Sound Archive.

Enough (1991)

tape 19'

Premiere: 5 September 1991. New Music-New Dance Festival, Project Arts Centre, Dublin. Dance Theatre of Ireland.

Recording: CMC Sound Archive.

Portraits (1990)

Yamaha WX-7, tape

tape 15'

Premiere: 5 April 1990. Accents Festival, RHA Gallery, Dublin. Fergus Johnston.

Variations on 'Think'st thou to seduce me then' (1989)

ob tape

MS 10'

Premiere: 10 June 1989. Hugh Lane Municipal Gallery of Modern Art, Dublin. David Agnew (ob).

Recording: CMC Sound Archive.

Maha (1989)

cl, tape

MS 7'

Premiere: 9 May 1990. Project Arts Centre, Dublin.

Michael Seaver (cl).

Ytrebil (1989)

tape, dancer

tape 8'

Commissioned by Sarah Scaife.

Premiere: 3 May 1989. New Music-New Dance Festival, Project Arts Centre, Dublin. Sarah Scaife (dancer).

Recording: CMC Sound Archive.